

Griff's Fielders Were Punk---Carroll Council Seeking Floor Honors

LOOKING 'EM OVER

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER

And the Figgers Never Lie

Now Mr. Irwin M. Howe, Ban Johnson's own pet private figger demon, has completed his tasks until next year. For the past few days his official figgers have appeared here and there, fighting for space among the Christmas advertising of boots and shoes, handsome cravats and overcoats with all the well-known de-wads. As a matter of fact Mr. Howe might get a much better play on his official figgers if he turned 'em loose a couple of weeks earlier. He might have to battle with football games, but that would be a far easier thing to defeat than Christmas advertising of boots and shoes, etc., etc.

Today Mr. Howe permits the printing of the official pitching records for 1920, not that many folks will print 'em having done that thing last October when Al Munro Elias, The Washington Times' own pet private figger demon, let loose 'o' his. It has been found after much experience that Mr. Elias is quite as accurate as Mr. Howe, and a darn sight earlier with his information. However, having lamped Mr. Howe's figgers, we have written down a few things for the benefit of Smithie, The Times' telephone sherd.

For instance, we note that Walter P. Johnson, suffering from a lame wing, pitched his first no-hit, no-run game last year, and, furthermore, displayed more rectitude than did any other member of Clark Griffith's flinging colony. Walter permitted an average of 3.13 runs to be earned off his delivery last season. He pitched 141 innings scattered over twenty-one games, being taken out of the box three times and rushing to the rescue of some other bird six times.

Perusing these figgers from the office of Ban Johnson, via Irwin M. Howe, we note that the Griffmen played 153 games in 1920, scoring 723 runs. A slight shake of the right fin shows that the Griffers averaged 4.72 runs per contest last summer. And yet Walter Johnson, giving but 3.13 to the foe, won only eight games to his ten defeats.

FIGGERS PROVE SOMETHING.

Going down the line, we bump into the name of that remarkable Viking with the collapsible knee, George Erickson. He permitted an average of 3.74 earned runs per game, and he was in thirty-nine of them, too. While he was handing out that type of pitching, he was receiving an average

HARVARD BASKETBALL COACH OPPOSES ALL ROUGH STUNTS

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Dec. 18.—Ed Wachter, coach of the Harvard basketball team and perhaps the greatest player of the game, declares the sooner the sport is deprived of indoor football and wrestling methods the larger its following will be. He has played in more than 1,700 games and is still in harness. He is generally considered one of the greatest basketball players in the history of the game.

"If the game is going to regain its former prestige," says Wachter, "it will be necessary for the officials to hold the participants more strictly to the rules. All the tactics of indoor football, such as tackling, pushing, shoving, tripping, and bumping, must be eliminated. Last year, I remember a Harvard player six games during a short tour of Maine, and only two fouls were called, when, as a matter of fact, there should have been at least 200. We won all six of these games, but it wasn't real basketball."

A GENTLEMAN'S GAME. "Basketball is a gentleman's game when played properly, and the sooner the rough tactics are eliminated for good, the sooner the sport will thrive again. It is a gentleman's game, because no red-blooded man, because no participant with a heart will stand for being handled roughly without retaliation. The rough ones in the long run, but they seem to believe that it's good business to attract box office receipts by this method."

"Basketball is a game for real sportsmen, and the public will patronize the sport in larger number if given the opportunity of seeing the game played properly, the greater prosperity will be theirs."

It is unjust to allow such a good section of the country to be ruined for the sport by the element that takes indoor football, and leave basketball unspoiled for those who love the game."

AN OLD PROBLEM. "One great question among basketball players is the advantage of a tall player over one of shorter stature. It is the old problem of a good man versus a small one. On the surface it seems as though the smaller player is at a disadvantage. But look at such players as Harry Hough, Bill Hardman, Barney Sedran and Jack Dowd—little fellows, but good players. Ability is what counts and not size."

"One of the best teams on which I ever have played represented Troy eight years ago, but we lost out in the pennant chase to Utica. That Troy team was composed of Chief Muller, Sid Barber, Jack Ingels, Andy Sulles and myself, but I was no disgrace to a line out to Utica. I was a good line-up as Barney Sedran, Marty Friedman, Jack Fox, Kid Frankie and a chap named Coher."

"My, how those fellows could pass the ball! They played basketball in those days with absolutely none of the indoor football which has crept in during recent years."

CAN STILL PLAY GAME. "I attribute my present fine physical condition to the training and development I received playing basketball, but it's not remarkable that I am still able to go out there and play a hard game."

"You see I'm only thirty-eight years old; I started playing at the age of fifteen, and for several years I was the youngest lad in the Western Massachusetts League. I recall one time, back in 1902, when I was with Ware. We went to Westfield, and I was stopped at the door by the ticket collector, who curiously informed me that the kids' preliminary game was over. I was forced to send for our

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NEW KNICKS BAD FOR GAME

There is probably no one in the world capable of more sagacity than the caddie. One of the golfers who had been carrying for a golfer during a tournament extending over three days, noticed that his employer on the second day missed shots that he had played beautifully the day before. After watching the golfer in silence for a few holes the caddie spoke:

"Ye sud never play gowf in a pair of new breeks," were the words of wisdom, as he looked at the new knickerbockers the man had put on that morning. "For ye will be lookin at them when ye sud be lookin at the ba."

well as did those with the Washington club.

Sam Rice hung up a new fielding record for gardeners when he gathered in 454 putouts and flung out twenty-four enemies, averaging 990, but Sam's little pals on the ball club were not beginning to keep him company. They were tumbling sadly.

Besides batting better than he has at any time previously, Joe Judge was also fielding wonderfully well last year.

Johnson are the only firstsackers preferred to him. Joe's average of .992 is the same as Johnston's. The Indian gets the edge because he was in 147 games to 124 for the Griffmen.

But "Bucky" Harris has his bad days rather frequently, and so did Shanks and Ellerbe and Shannon and Jimmy O'Neill. Their fielding misplays threw away game after game, quite nullifying the work of the perspiring pitchers.

JUST ODD PARAGRAPHS.

Here are some odd paragraphs culled from the official figgers:

Ernest Allen, of the Tigers, permitted an average of nine earned runs per game off his stuff before getting into the game.

Koy Moore, of the Mackmen, won one and lost thirteen games.

Joe Acosta, the wee Griff, went to the rescue of others ten times out of seventeen opportunities.

Jim Bagby, the Indians' slow ball pitcher, won thirty-one games and lost a dozen. He was the only man to reach the thirty mark in victories.

Eddie Foster, of the Tigers, was knocked out of the box seventeen times for the season's record.

SOME MORE PARAGRAPHS.

Derrill Pratt, the Yanks' veteran, was passed only by Eddie Collins in fielding around second base.

Zeke Miller's fielding average of .571 gave him leadership over his team.

Doc Ayers made nine hits for the Tigers last year, averaging .153. He thus beat out Moxie Harper, whose six hits gave him a mark of but .120.

Eddie Foster played 117 games with the Red Sox and hit for .253.

Babe Ruth threw out 21 base runners, but Bobby Veach led the league with 226 death pangs.

In nineteen games Frank Ellerbe proved himself the worst shortstop in the league.

Figgers don't lie, but other things do. For instance, in these official reports compiled by Irwin M. Howe, Ban Johnson's own pet private figger demon, one Robert Meusel, of the New York Yankees, is down as a southpaw hitter. Do you think he is?

BROOKLANDERS SATISFY FOLLOWERS IN WINNING

Catholic University presented a smooth-working combination against Lehigh University at Brookland last night which satisfied the C. U. following beyond measure. Coach Fred Rice received many compliments following the victory over the Bethlehem lads, who were set back by a 29-27 score.

Dunn, Lynch, Kelly, Fosse and Roberts displayed plenty of speed and showed to great advantage on defense. The Lehigh men were kept in the running only by the free tossing of Lingie.

HENSHAW WILL OPPOSE PARSONS MONDAY NIGHT

There will be no match tonight in the District polo and basketball championship tournament, but the devotees of the green cloth game will have a chance to see "Devil Dog" Henshaw, the unbeaten player, on Monday, when he tackles William Parsons.

Parsons has won his last two matches in easy fashion.

Walter Asay came through last night in his scheduled match with Clyde Richmond. Asay ran 13 and 12 for high runs, and won out by 100 to 44.

Columbia Is Off.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 18.—Owing to their failure to agree on a date, Columbia and Penn will not meet on the gridiron next season. Bucknell, Columbia, and Penn State are missing from the Quakers' schedule for 1921.

Epiphany Wins Game.

Epiphany Comets defeated the Selective Service five by 70 to 18 last night.

Marine Preps Win.

The Marine Preps defeated the Virginia A. C. 24 to 23 in Alexandria last night.

Peerless Is Beaten.

Peerless A. C. players received a 58-to-3 defeat at the hands of the Grace Club last night.

Goes to Baltimore.

Gonzaga High School plays Loyola High School in Baltimore tonight.

Penny Ante The Opener's Usual Stall By Jean Knott



AMERICAN LEAGUE RATIFIES NEW PACT

Johnson's Forces Score Heavily In Blocking Rotation in Election of Board.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—The American League has today taken its stand with the National in ratifying of the new agreement which is to continue in force between the big leagues for a period of twenty-five years.

Though the younger major is in harmony with its older rival there is not complete harmony within its ranks. In the election of the board of directors Ban Johnson's forces scored heavily against the opposition.

Col. Jacob Ruppert, it developed, was offered a seat on the board, but refused because Harry Frazee and Charles A. Comiskey were not named.

In addition the league voted to continue recognition of certified spit ball pitchers, went on record as opposing the interleague waiver rule excepted on drafted players and gave Judge Landis its official endorsement.

Ty Cobb arrived late in the day, having missed a train in Washington. He was expected to sign as manager of the Detroit club today.

LOYOLA AND TEMPLE ARE NOT PLAYING ON FLOORS

Loyola College, of Baltimore, and Temple College, of Philadelphia, are not playing here tonight. The Baltimore lads were to have met Catholic University and Temple was to have played Gallaudet. Both teams cancelled their games with the District collegians.

Lehigh University, which was beaten 29 to 27 last night by C. U. is down at the Naval Academy today meeting Billy Lush's midshipmen.

LEWIS, OF ANNEX, TOPS INTERNAL REVENUE MEN

The Internal Revenue League finished its first series of the season with the Annex No. 1 and the S. O. C. teams deadlocked for first honors with fourteen wins and seven losses each.

The Solicitors and S. & E. teams are tied for third and fourth places.

Lewis, of the Annex, leads with an average of 108.88. Offutt is second, 101.33, and Collett third, 100.66. High team game set to Annex No. 1, 156; Lewis and Redman are tied for high game honors with 134 each. High set, Lewis, 358.

JOHNNY WILSON LUCKY TO SAVE CHAMPIONSHIP

BOSTON, Dec. 18.—Johnny Wilson, world's middleweight champion, is back in town, the lucky possessor of his title. He went up to Montreal to box George Robinson, of this city, and found his opponent much too rough for him.

In the opening round Wilson walked into a hard right swing and hit the floor. He pulled himself together and managed to hold his own fairly well until the seventh, when again Robinson landed a hard right, knocking the champion to the floor. In the ninth Wilson managed to drop Robinson with a stiff left hook, but Robinson was never in danger.

The unanimous opinion of the sports writers was that Robinson had earned the decision. In Montreal no decisions are permitted and so Wilson is still the champion.

Reserves Will Play.

Gallaudet Reserves will play the Tech High quint tonight at Kendall Green.

Will Play Tonight.

The Sherwood and Columbia A. C. tilters will play in the Wilson Normal gymnasium tonight.

Doobs Will Remain.

Answering many rumors flying about for two months that he would quit the Southern Association, Johnny Doobs has again signed to manage the New Orleans Pelicans.

Rex Lads Play.

Rex Juniors and the Lexingtons play tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock on the Hoadsday playgrounds for the 130-pound football championship.

MISS KITTIE LECKIE, of the Chicago Y. W. C. A., is shown about to "shoot" a basket. The girls have recently taken up this strenuous game as a regular pastime.



LITTLE JEFF WILL FACE MURRAY HERE

Manager Sullivan Books Rugged Bantams for Ardmore Next Tuesday.

Proving by his knockout victory over Patsey Donovan, the best fly-weight boxer in the District, that he possessed the real goods, Frankie Murray, of Philadelphia, has been matched to box ten rounds to a decision on the night of December 21 with Little Jeff, of Baltimore, one of the best little fellows in the country.

Manager Sullivan has signed up two little whirlwinds for his Ardmore Club and there will undoubtedly be a whale of a crowd on hand when the bell rings.

In addition to the main bout, Manager Sullivan has arranged the following card:

Four round bout, Young Griffo, Baltimore, vs. Young Dempsey, of Georgetown.

Six round bouts, Phil Baldwin, Baltimore, vs. John L. Smith, Walter Reed; Young Dempsey, Washington, vs. Johnny Corbett, Pittsburgh; Billy Regan, Washington, vs. Dick Burgess, Baltimore; Johnny George, Washington, vs. Joe Maple, Georgetown, and George Myers, Walter Reed, vs. Pinky Boyd, Philadelphia.

PACKERS HERE TO FORM LEAGUE FOR BOWLING

The packers of the District are forming a duck pin league to get under way after the first of the year at the Grand Central. Games are to be bowled starting at 8 o'clock.

So far the following have made known their desire to compete: Cuddey, Packing Co., Joseph Phillips, Co., James Head Co., Armour & Co., Swift & Co., and Wilson & Co.

WASHINGTON STAR LEADS IN NEWSPAPER LEAGUE

The first series of the Washington Newspaper League ended Wednesday, December 15, with the Star and Herald fighting it out for first honors. The Star took the big end of the battle, winning two games and taking the lead by a one-game margin.

Allen, of the Herald team, seems to have a hobby of getting his name on all the first place columns. With good consistent bowling he has managed to head all the individual prizes.

His records are as follows: High game, 137; high set, 347; high average, 108-1. Allen has the largest number of scores and the highest high game honors go to the Post, 620; high team set to the Herald, 1,506.

KEARNS SAYS DEMPSEY IS NOT SERIOUSLY HURT

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—Jack Dempsey, heavyweight champion, is en route today to Salt Lake City, where he will spend Christmas with his parents.

Dempsey and his manager, Jack Kearns, both denied emphatically before leaving Chicago, that the damage done to the champion's ear in his bout with Bill Brennan Tuesday night is serious.

Western Opens Well.

Western High School opened up well against Alexandria in the Boys' V. M. C. A. gymnasium yesterday, rolling up a 59-to-16 count. Coach George F. Green used many Westerners in the game.

Play for Title.

The Truxton A. C. and Mohawk A. C. elevens will battle for the 139-pound District championship tomorrow afternoon at Seventeenth and D streets southeast.

G. W. U. Girls Play.

George Washington University girls play the J. Ormond Wilson Normal School girls tonight in the Business gymnasium.

After District Five.

The St. Michael Juniors, claiming the 115-pound championship of Maryland, are after floor games with all fast teams in this vicinity. Address: E. Appelt, 2208 Eastern avenue, Baltimore, Md.

Silents to Play.

The Silent Five basketball team will meet the Ingram tilters in the Ingram gym tonight at 8:15 o'clock.

Yankees Play Reebels.

The Congress Heights Yankees battle the Y. M. C. A. Rebels tonight on the Congress Heights gym.

He Se's Insurance.

Ray Schaik, the White Sox catcher, is selling insurance in Chicago this winter.

Lehigh to Come.

Lehigh University comes here Friday night for a game with Catholic University in the Brookland gymnasium.

CARROLL COUNCIL FIVE BIDS FOR DISTRICT FLOOR HONORS

By BRYAN MORSE.

John Reed, who was instrumental in getting the Knights of Columbus baseball players in the city series last summer, breaks right out into print today as manager of the Carroll Council, Knights of Columbus, basketball team, with a deft to District teams. Reed's Carroll five plays the Epiphany Comets at the K. of C. Hall Monday night. He says it will be a good game, but isn't satisfied to rest the matter there. "The Carroll team is playing in the K. of C. League," writes Reed, "but I am anxious to meet any of the good basketball teams in the city."

The Carroll team is making a fine record in the circuit and is branching out for other contests. Monday's game with the Comets is expected to draw well. John Reed can be reached at 25 R street northwest.

Here It Is

A man rarely finds his memory poor when he has done something he wants to forget.

NO TITLE PUT UP FOR SUNDAY GAME

Rex and Knickerbocker A. C. Elevens Expected to Be in Top Form.

The District independent football championship will not be at stake in tomorrow's Rex A. C.-Knickerbocker A. C. eleven, scheduled for American League Park. Despite the fact that the Rexmen are not risking their coveted title the Knickerbockers intend challenging the fast John Marshall A. C. eleven, of Richmond, in the event they defeat the Rexmen.

The Georgetown lads with Harry Harris, Tim Tomlin, Tommy Whelan, Weathers, of North Carolina, Van Brocklin, of Maryland, and several other stars, reported in their line-up are more than confident of trimming the Rexmen.

The northeast clubmen are sure they will show the team that trimmed the Navy Yard a thing or two about the grid game. The Rexmen have been keeping unusually quiet about their line-up. It is reported that owing to injuries several stars have been added to the Rex outfit.

Manager James E. Wright, of the Rexmen, figures his eleven will be just about right for tomorrow's game. Cranston, Baldwin, Byers, and Glebo will be in the line-up it is reported. Littkus, who reported with injuries and Turner, also pretty well banged up in the recent games with the John Marshall team and the Dreadnaughts, may be unable to don their football clothes for the game tomorrow.

Comets are scheduled to play the Congress Heights Yankees in Washington, and we ask the basketball fans of your city to witness his game and judge for themselves what a fast combination we have, and assure the followers of the game in your city of seeing one of the best teams that has ever played in Washington.

COMETS SPEED UP. Jack Haas' Comets at Epiphany are going ahead in fine shape. Now that Bob O'Leary's Aloysius Big Five is getting action some interesting games may be expected. The Comets, Aloysius, Yankees, and other first-class quints are arranging games this winter and the fans can look forward to some hot contests.

Several of the Comet and Aloysius Club lads have had a world of experience. Team work is being drilled into the individuals and good results are forthcoming.

Since Baltimore and Richmond appear willing to exchange games, the home games are sure to draw well. The Brookland A. C. is a newcomer in the ranks of the floor teams and can be looked upon as ready and willing to take on any of them. Practically every part of the city is now represented by a first-class team and with the Knickerbockers and others getting games an interesting winter is in prospect.

He Crashes Pill. Young Goebel, purchased from Springfield in the Eastern League by the Washington club for a trial in the spring, hit for .293 last year, playing in 139 games. Out of his 163 hits, Goebel collected 17 doubles, six triples and six home runs. He also swiped 43 bases, which indicates some speed on the hoof.

COMISKEY MAY SELL TO OKLAHOMA OIL MAGNATE

White Sox Owner Said to Wish Rest From Troubles.

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—Charles E. Comiskey is negotiating for the sale of his American League ball club. The deal is expected to be completed within a few weeks. Jim Crawford, of Tulsa, Okla., who has become a millionaire overnight by finding oil on his property, being the purchaser. When war threatened, Ban Johnson found that Crawford wanted a franchise in major league baseball and had him lined up to enter Chicago. Peace settled upon the warring magnates and Crawford's chance seemed gone until Comiskey opened negotiations with him.

The White Sox magnate has been in poor health for several years and his physician has warned him to get out of baseball.

Play in New York. Syracuse and Dartmouth will meet on the gridiron at the New York Polo Grounds on November 19, 1921.

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